



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0023

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

SUSAN A. GENDRON
COMMISSIONER

Exhibit #III.C.

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Susan A. Gendron, Commissioner*

DATE: September 10, 2008

SUBJECT: Major Capital School Construction Program; *Site Approval Consideration*;
SAD 9, New PreK-3 Elementary School Construction Project in Farmington,
Maine.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Superintendent Michael Cormier is requesting Site Approval for a preK-3 elementary school in Farmington, Maine. The site selection process has taken more than a year. A number of sites were evaluated and the decision came down to the selection of either the present in-village site or an addition to the Cascade Brook School which is on the fringe of the village.

The in-village site which is presently the Mallett School site is close to the University and the business section of the village. The Mallett School can be used to house students while the new school is under construction.

A site plan had been agreed upon which included the purchase of two homes on Perham Street. With the purchase of the properties traffic flow at the school would have been greatly enhanced. Neighbors to the proposed property purchase appealed to the Maine Historic Preservation Commission. The appeal was based upon the opinion that removal of the homes would have an adverse affect on the historic district in Farmington. The Maine Historic Preservation Commission upheld the appeal.

The architect and his engineers redesigned the site. Although not the first choice of those involved, the site will accommodate a new school in the village.

The site has public water and public sewer. It is close to the fire department, police department, and medical services. State and local agencies that have an interest in the proposed school have been contacted and letters from them are on file at the Department of Education. The New vs. Renovation Study and the Site Selection Application are also on file at the Department of Education.

Exhibit #III.C.

Site Approval Consideration; SAD 9

New PreK-3 Elementary School Construction Project in Farmington, Maine

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Project Information:

Project: New PreK-3 Elementary School, SAD #9 Farmington

Superintendent: Michael Cormier

Assistant Superintendent: Sue Pratt

Architect: Steve Blatt, AIA, Stephen Blatt Architects

Total number of acres: 5.65

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Construction Committee voted unanimously to recommends that the State Board of Education grant Site Approval to SAD #9 for construction of a new preK-3 elementary school in Farmington, Maine.

COMMISSIONER RECOMMENDATION

The Commissioner recommends the State Board of Education grant Site Approval to SAD #9 for construction of a new preK-3 elementary school in Farmington, Maine, under the provisions of Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

*Prepared by the School Facilities Services Team